

## Wisdom Lane PTA Meeting 9/18/23

**Call to Order:** Kathleen Pedrick called the meeting to order at 7:05pm. Kathleen welcomed everyone to the meeting, introduced herself and the board.

**Approval of Minutes:** Janette Ruddy asks if everyone had a chance to review the minutes from our last meeting in May. She asks for a motion to approve the minutes. Mr. Avena and Faith Dermody approve the motion. The minutes will be filed as written.

**Principals Report:** Mr. Avena welcomes everyone to a new school year at Wisdom Lane, he hears the best building in the district. The school year got off to a tremendous start, the sixth graders got off to a good start, finding their way around the school. They have been able to navigate the cafeteria, sitting with friends, finding new friends to sit with. We will have our Back to School night on Thursday 9/21/23. It will be a great night to meet the teachers and to hear classroom procedures and expectations. The Pta will have some things in the cafeteria as well as the boy scouts. We now have Parentsquare as our new platform to communicate with parents. It is now all inclusive, and a great new platform. Sports have started, 7 and 8th graders are governed by Section 8. In the fall we have Badminton, Cross Country, Boys and Girls Soccer, Football and Cheerleading. We also have a Winter 1 and a Winter 2 season as well as a Spring season. Each of our seasons are roughly 8-9 weeks. Finally we have about 30 clubs in our building. They are listed by the main office and announcements will begin shortly, they will be in the morning and afternoon. We will also be having a Club fair on 9/27/23. If your child is having trouble navigating the clubs they can email their guidance counselor or myself. We have a new 6th Guidance Counselor Miss. Rumero this year, Mrs. Elder is our 7th grade counselor and Mrs. Loveland is our 8th grade counselor. We have moved away from giving more than 1-1 and ½ hour of homework, usually only about 20-30 minutes at this point. Mr. Avelo-Shaw goes over some policies and procedures for the beginning of the year. Please utilize parent square and have your child download powerschool and let them see and navigate their grades. Mrs. Ippolito goes over the extra help policy for all teachers. We will be following Day 1 for back to school night. Mrs. Medina shares information about 2 upcoming events, and also is working with the Long Island Youth Coalition through the YES community Center. Before we close out a question is asked where students can get fliers for the clubs, however they are only announcements made except for the culinary club due to the popularity of the club.

### **1st VP Report:**

Spirit Wear closes on 9/22 and you will be able to order until close of that day. No orders will be processed until the sale closes. You are notified via email when orders are ready to pick up. We have not ordered, we have fliers up here with a QR code.

### **2nd VP Report:**

We have 165 at the moment and I have just received a bunch of new memberships. Last year we had 234 members, we would like to have 250 Mr. Avena would like to have 500. We will announce it at Back to School night. Thank you to everyone who has joined, if you have not joined and would like to we have membership forms and it's \$10.

**3rd VP Report:**

We will be having our first fall fundraiser with Chipotle hopefully in mid October. They give back 33% which is the highest percentage that anyone gives back.

Our second fundraiser we would like to do is through Kastle Creations and we used them last year and were very successful.

Our Spring fundraiser is to be determined. Joe's Ice Cream truck will be here through the end of October.

**Treasurer's Report:**

Ended April with just over \$26,700, May we had some light activity and ended with \$26,297. June was pretty active with end of year parties and funding scholarships. We ended the year with \$23,322. July and August were extremely light, collecting only some memberships and paying some bank interests. We ended the summer with \$23,380. Our Budget did change a bit and we want to put that money to good use. We increased the cultural arts and scholarships line and will still end our school year roughly with around \$19,000. Anthony asks for a motion to approve the new budget. Janette Ruddy and Kathleen approve the motion.

**Corresponding Secretary Report:**

We have received 2 different thank you notes from the end of last year from one of our scholarship winners, and one from our teachers for our Staff Appreciation Luncheon. Kathleen also stated that she received some emails from teachers regarding the luncheon.

**4th VP Report:****Ms. Katcher**

Eighth grade band will be playing for Division Ave. Homecoming parade this Saturday, September 23rd. Approximately 55 students will be arriving at Wisdom Lane by 10am with the parade kicking off from Northside at 11am and then students will return to Wisdom by noon.

**Mrs. McWalters**

Her students are celebrating Hispanic Heritage Month by researching famous Spanish speakers and musicians. They will also be creating a variety of projects through many modalities. Keep a lookout on your social media for what they create.

**Mrs. Lynch and Mrs. Piccione**

Wisdom Lane Cheer squad will be cheering at Division Ave. Varsity Homecoming game during the 1st quarter. This Saturday at 2:00!

**7th Grade Science Classes**

The annual Fire Island / Sunken Forest Trip is next week. Mrs. Going, Mrs. Halvorsen and Mr. Roseval's classes are going on Thursday, September 28th, Mrs. Carlson's classes are going on Friday, September 29th. Permission slips were handed out last week, cost is \$38, payments are to be made through My School Bucks. There is a link for My School Bucks on Wisdom's homepages as are copies of the permission slips.

**Mr. Bradley and Mrs. Zeller**

School Store will be holding an informational meeting during the last 20 minutes of all lunch

periods on Wednesday for any students that are interested in working at the school store. The school store will be open on Tuesdays and Wednesdays after September 29th.

### **Ms. Katcher and Mrs. Spainer**

Will be taking the 7th and 8th Grade Chorus and 8th Grade Band to Six Flags Great Adventure on Saturday, May 11th, to participate in the Music in the Parks Competition and Music Festival. Information on the trip cost and fundraising opportunities will be sent home and posted in Google Classrooms in the next few weeks.

### **Mrs. Mortillaro**

The district and English Department will be hosting John Schu at Wisdom on Wednesday, Sept. 20th!! He does a reading pep rally

#### About Mr. Schu:

John Schu has made a career out of advocating for the people and things he cares about most: kids, books, and the people that connect them. He was named a *Library Journal* Mover and Shaker for his dynamic interactions with students and his passionate adoption of new technologies as a means of connecting authors, illustrators, books, and readers. He is the children's librarian for [Bookelicious](#), a part-time lecturer at Rutgers University, and shares his love of reading with countless educators and students around the world. He served as the Ambassador of School Libraries for Scholastic Book Fairs for almost 6 years.

He is the author of *This Is a School*, *This Is a Story*, *Louder Than Hunger* and *The Gift of Story: Exploring the Affective Side of the Reading Life*. He is a contributor to *The Creativity Project*.

John Schu lives in Naperville, Illinois.

### **Ms. Medina**

Wanted to share two opportunities for Parents:

**SCREENAGERS Under The Influence (Addressing Vaping, Drugs & Alcohol in THE DIGITAL AGE!) – FREE MOVIE SHOWING FOR PARENTS** & (appropriate for teen-age youth). on Monday, October 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2023 at 6:00pm (Doors open at 5:45pm) AT SEAFORD CINEMAS (Merrick Road, Seaford) This is Provided FREE of charge sponsored by our LCAC-Levittown community Action Coalition, Massapequa Takes Action Coalition and by YESCCC YES Community Counseling Center. Brief discussion about the film's content with a call to action to help keep our communities safe After the movie screening.

**KIDS DON'T COME WITH INSTRUCTIONS---- Active Parenting of Teens Program – 6 week Virtual Parent Workshop to Teach Proven, Effective Approaches to Enhance Parenting of Teens- Addressing Effective Communication with Teens; Teaching Responsible Behaviors; Understanding A Teens' Goals & Avoiding Power Struggles; Reducing Risky Behaviors (among those: Substances & Violence) Workshop begins Tuesdays, October 10<sup>th</sup> @7:00pm-8:30Pm (&75-Fee Includes Workbook) Offered through YESCCC – Contact Eileen at Training@yesccc.org or call : 516-799-3202 ext. 211**

**LIGHT THE NIGHT** – Leukemia & Lymphoma Society (LLS) – Saturday , October 21 @ 4pm -9pm Eisenhower Park – Builders & SADD Club members will be promoting LLS Cancer awareness Fundraiser and for students & their families to participate in LIGHT THE NIGHT Activity; along with DAHS' Key Club & SADD Chapters. More Information to follow-

**Mrs. Carella and Mrs. Halvorsen**

Halloween Dance is Friday, October 27th. Cost is \$10.00 for admission and 2 snack tickets. Prizes are awarded for best costumes in each grade. No Masks are allowed.

**Mrs. Going**

Yearbook staff applications will be handed out Wednesday during lunch periods. If any 8th grade students are interested in being a part of this club they should see Mrs. Going

Please make sure to join your child's google classroom. Mrs. Carrilo is the 6th grade class advisor, Mrs. Belz is the 7th grade class advisor and Ms. Baker is the 8th grade class advisor.

**Council Delegate Report:**

We do not have any council reports tonight, however we are looking for representatives to go to the meetings this year. The only thing we ask is that you can not represent 2 different schools. You can only represent Wisdom Lane. If we have a vote you will have a vote.

**Standing Committees:**

No reports as there have been no meetings to date. We had picture day on 9/14 and it went well. If you didn't order don't worry you will be sent a proof and you can still order. Picture retake day will be 10/27/23. We will send home a reminder through parent square.

We are looking for a high school liaison for food service.

Septa: accepting new members, you do not have to have a child with services to be a member. They have their first fundraiser up and running and it is with Java coffee. Their first meeting is 10/2/23.

**Old Business: NO**

**New Business:** Yes, Mr. Avena states that Wisdom lane is working with GOAT USA. They are coming up with a Wisdom/Divison shirt. It will come in Grey, White and Black. They are coming to talk to the students on 10/23/23 about the collaboration. The price will be \$25 per T-Shirt Each child attending assembly will receive a GOAT sticker.

**Adjourned:** Meeting adjourned 7:48pm

Notes written by Janette Ruddy